

Announcement of an effort to restore water quality in Hoskins Creek in Essex County, Virginia

PUBLIC MEETING: Essex Public Library, 117 North Church Lane, Tappahannock, Virginia on October 15th, 2007 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. A Technical Advisory Meeting will be held on October 11, 2007 at the Essex Public Library, 117 North Church Lane, Tappahannock, Virginia on from 10:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Conservation and Recreation are announcing the start of a study to restore water quality, a public comment opportunity, and public meeting

MEETING DESCRIPTION: Second technical advisory committee and public meetings on a study to restore water quality

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: Virginia agencies are working to identify sources of the bacterial contamination in the waters of Hoskins Creek and its tributaries in Essex County. This stream is impaired for failure to meet the *Primary Contact (Recreational)* designated use because of bacterial standard violations.

The study reports the sources of bacterial contamination and recommends total maximum daily loads, or TMDLs, for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, bacterial levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount.

HOW A DECISION IS MADE: The development of a TMDL includes a public comment period, including public meetings. After public comments have been considered and addressed, DEQ will submit the TMDL report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ during the comment period, October 15, 2007 to November 13, 2007. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at the public meeting announced in this notice.

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Name: Mark Alling – Water Monitoring, Planning, and Pollution Response Manager

Address: Virginia Department of Environmental Quality-Piedmont Regional Office, 4949A Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA, 23060

Telephone (804) 527-5021

e-mail msalling@deq.virginia.gov

Fax (804)-527-5106